



IN THE CLAIMS

Please AMEND claims 1-46; and

Please ADD claims 47-49, as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A relocation method ~~for changing a serving radio resource control entity, said method comprising the steps of:~~

a) establishing a first operating state in which a user equipment has radio links with a serving network element in charge of radio resource control of said user equipment and with a drift network element supporting said serving network element with a wireless connection to said user equipment;

b) transmitting a relocation-specific information from said serving network element to a target network element ~~which~~that is going to be the next serving radio resource control entity;

c) establishing, based on said relocation-specific information, a second operating state in which said user equipment has radio links with said drift network element and said target network element, and in which said drift network element supports said target network element with a user traffic connection to said user equipment and receives user traffic from both said serving network element and said target network element; and

d) relocating said radio resource control to said target network element when said second operating state has been established.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein further~~
comprising:

establishing an lur interface is established between said drift network element and
both said serving network element and said target network element.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the
transmitting said relocation-specific information is transmitted comprises transmitting the
relocation-specific information in a relocation request message.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 3, wherein the
transmitting said relocation request message is comprises transmitting a RANA-radio
access network application part Relocation-relocation Request request message
~~transmitted~~ to an access server or point of a core network.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 3, wherein the
transmitting said relocation request message is comprises directly ~~transmitted~~
transmitting the relocation request message to said target network element.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 3, ~~wherein further~~
comprising:

including said relocation request message comprises an identification of said target
network element and said drift network element in said relocation request message.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said entity~~ ~~change~~ the relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

~~e1)~~ transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;₃

~~e2)~~ initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;₃

~~e3)~~ initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element;₃ and

~~e4)~~ initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein said relocating ~~step d)~~ comprises ~~the steps of:~~

~~d1)~~ instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;₃

d2) stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3) releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 4, wherein the transmitting said relocation specific information comprises transmitting identifications of multiple drift network elements to which a connection is to be established by said target network element.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 10, wherein the transmitting said identification comprises transmitting a list of temporary identifiers of said radio access network.

12. (Currently Amended) A relocation system ~~for changing a serving radio resource control entity, said system comprising:~~

a) a serving network element ~~for transmitting~~ configured to transmit a relocation-specific information to a target network element ~~which~~ that is going to be the next serving radio resource control entity, said serving network element ~~being~~ configured to be in charge of radio resource control of a user equipment; and

b) a drift network element ~~for supporting~~ configured to support said serving network element with a wireless connection to said user equipment;

e) wherein said target network element is ~~arranged~~configured to establish, in response to the receipt of said relocation-specific information, a link to said drift network element and to initiate a downlink bi-casting procedure to said serving network element and said target network element or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element; and

d) wherein said system is ~~arranged~~configured to change said radio resource control to said target network element after said initiation of said bi-casting or forwarding procedure.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ system according to claim 12, wherein said system is provided in a ~~UTRAN~~universal mobile telecommunications terrestrial radio access network or an ~~IP~~internet protocol radio access network.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ system according to claim 12, wherein said serving network element, said drift network element, and/or said target network element are base transceiver stations, base station controllers, ~~or~~ radio network controllers, or a combination thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A-The~~ system according to claim 12, wherein said link to said drift network element comprises an lur interface.

16. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ system according to claim 12, wherein said target network element is ~~arranged~~configured to establish links to multiple drift network elements based on an identification in said relocation-specific information.

17. (Currently Amended) A network element ~~for handling radio resource control in a radio access network~~, comprising:

a) ~~a receiver unit configured to receive~~ a receiver unit configured to receive ~~means for receiving~~ a relocation-specific information;

b) ~~an establishment unit configured to establish~~ an establishment unit configured to establish ~~means for establishing~~, in response to the receipt of said relocation-specific information, a link to a drift network element specified by said relocation-specific information; and

e) ~~an initiation unit configured to initiate~~ an initiation unit configured to initiate ~~means for initiating~~ a downlink bi-casting procedure to said network element and to a serving network element to be subjected to relocation, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said network element,

wherein said network element is configured to handle radio resource control in a radio access network.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ network element according to claim 17, wherein said network element is a base transceiver station, a base station controller, or a radio network controller.

19. (Currently Amended) A network element ~~for handling radio resource control in a radio access network~~, comprising:

a) ~~an addition unit configured to add~~ means for adding an identification information to a relocation-specific information, said identification information ~~identifying configured to identify~~ a drift network element supporting said network element in serving a user equipment; and

b) ~~a transmission unit configured to transmit~~ means for transmitting said relocation-specific information to a target network element to which radio resource control of said user equipment is to be relocated,

wherein said network element is configured to handle radio resource control in a radio access network.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ network element according to claim 19, wherein said network element is a base transceiver station, a base station controller, or a radio network controller.

21. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 2, wherein the transmitting said relocation-specific information is transmitted comprises transmitting the relocation-specific information in a relocation request message.

22. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 4, wherein the transmitting said relocation request message comprises transmitting an identification of said target network element and said drift network element.

23. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 5, wherein the transmitting said relocation request message comprises transmitting an identification of said target network element and said drift network element.

24. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 2, wherein said ~~entity~~ change-relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

25. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 3, wherein said ~~entity~~ change-relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

26. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 4, wherein said ~~entity~~ change-relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

27. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 5, wherein said ~~entity~~ change-relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

28. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 6, wherein said ~~entity~~ change-relocating comprises a soft handover procedure.

29. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 2, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element; and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

30. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 3, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport

forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element;

and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

31. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 4, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element;

and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

32. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 5, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element;

and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

33. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 6, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element;

and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

34. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 7, wherein said establishing ~~step e)~~ of said second operating state comprises ~~the steps of:~~

e1) transmitting a drift setup message from said target network element to said drift network element;

e2) initiating an uplink bi-casting procedure at said drift network element to said serving network element and said target network element;

e3) initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure from a core network access point to said serving network element and said target network element, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said target network element; and

e4) initiating a handover of said user equipment from said serving network element to said target network element.

35. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ method according to claim 2, wherein said ~~relocation~~ relocating ~~step d)~~ comprises ~~the steps of:~~

d1) instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2) stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3) releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

36. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 3, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating ~~step d)~~ comprises the steps of:

d1)-instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2)-stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3)-releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

37. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 4, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating ~~step d)~~ comprises the steps of:

d1)-instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2)-stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3)-releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

38. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 5, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating ~~step d)~~ comprises the steps of:

d1)-instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2) stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3) releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

39. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 6, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating step ~~d)~~ comprises the steps of:

d1) instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2) stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3) releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

40. (Currently Amended) A The method according to claim 7, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating step ~~d)~~ comprises the steps of:

d1) instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2) stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3) releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

41. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 8, wherein said ~~relocation~~relocating step d) comprises ~~the steps of:~~

d1)-instructing said drift network element to switch over its radio resource control interface from said serving network element to said target network element;

d2)-stopping bi-casting or forwarding to said serving network element after said switch over; and

d3)-releasing said radio resource control connection at said serving network element.

42. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 5, wherein the transmitting said relocation specific information comprises transmitting identifications of multiple drift network elements to which a connection is to be established by said target network element.

43. (Currently Amended) A-The method according to claim 6, wherein the transmitting said relocation specific information comprises transmitting identifications of multiple drift network elements to which a connection is to be established by said target network element.

44. (Currently Amended) A-The system according to claim 13, wherein said serving network element, said drift network element, and/or said target network element

are base transceiver stations, base station controllers, or radio network controllers, or a combination thereof.

45. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The system according to claim 13, wherein said link to said drift network element comprises an lur interface.

46. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The system according to claim 14, wherein said link to said drift network element comprises an lur interface.

47. (New) A relocation system, comprising:

a serving means for transmitting a relocation-specific information to a target means that is going to be the next serving radio resource control entity, and for being in charge of radio resource control of a user equipment; and

a drift means for supporting said serving means with a wireless connection to said user equipment;

wherein said target means is configured to establish, in response to the receipt of said relocation-specific information, a link to said drift means and to initiate a downlink bi-casting procedure to said serving means and said target means or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving means to said target means; and

wherein said system is configured to change said radio resource control to said target means after said initiation of said bi-casting or forwarding procedure.

48. (New) A network element, comprising:

- means for receiving a relocation-specific information;
- means for establishing, in response to the receipt of said relocation-specific information, a link to a drift network element specified by said relocation-specific information; and
- means for initiating a downlink bi-casting procedure to said network element and to a serving network element to be subjected to relocation, or a downlink transport forwarding procedure from said serving network element to said network element, wherein said network element is configured to handle radio resource control in a radio access network.

49. (New) A network element, comprising:

- means for adding an identification information to a relocation-specific information, said identification information configured to identify a drift network element supporting said network element in serving a user equipment; and
- means for transmitting said relocation-specific information to a target network element to which radio resource control of said user equipment is to be relocated, wherein said network element is configured to handle radio resource control in a radio access network.